

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00  
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R 062202Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5874  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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DEPT FOR AMBASSADOR GERARD SMITH

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: AORG, PARM, IAEA, CA  
SUBJECT: SUCCESSOR TO DR. ROMETSCH, IAEA DDG FOR SAFE-  
GUARDS

REF: VIENNA 92

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS JON JENNEKENS FOR POSITION OF DDG FOR SAFEGUARDS, BASED ON TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL QUALIFICATIONS AS WELL AS HIS SPECIFIC SAFEGUARDS EXPERIENCE. HOWEVER, HIS ABSENCE FROM OTTAWA WOULD LEAVE A LARGE VOID IN THE TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT OF GOC'S ATOMIC ENERGY CONTROL BOARD. END SUMMARY.

2. IN SEPTEMBER, JENNEKENS TOLD SCICOUNS, IN CONFIDENCE, THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY EKLUND TO CONSIDER A POSITION IN IAEA'S SAFEGUARDS ORGANIZATION. JENNEKENS HAD MIXED FEELINGS, AT THAT TIME, TOWARD ACCEPTING SUCH AN ASSIGNMENT. WHILE HE IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF AGENCY SAFEGUARDS AND BELIEVES THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO STRENGTHEN THIS FUNCTION, HE HAS SPENT SIXTEEN YEARS WITH THE ATOMIC  
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ENERGY CONTROL BOARD (AECB) AND NOW HOLDS ITS KEY TECHNICAL POSITION.

3. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT YET, THE EMBOFF HAS BEEN TOLD, INFORMALLY, THAT JENNEKENS IS BEING PROMOTED FROM THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR, LICENSING TO DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE OF AECB,

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1978. IN ADDITION, THERE IS LEGISLATION BEFORE PARLIAMENT WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH A NEW NUCLEAR CONTROL BOARD TO REPLACE THE AECB. THERE IS A VERY GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT JENNEKENS WOULD BE ASKED TO HEAD THIS NEW ORGANIZATION.

4. THE DILEMMA FACING JENNEKENS IS THAT ALTHOUGH HE WOULD WELCOME THE CHALLENGE OF THE IAEA POSITION, HE IS CONCERNED ABOUT WHERE HE WOULD END UP IN THE NCB ORGANIZATION, AFTER THE IAEA ASSIGNMENT. A RELATED POINT IS THAT THE TIME PERIOD IN A DDG POSITION IN IAEA TENDS TO EXTEND FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND HE HAS CONCERN ABOUT WHAT THE IMPACT OF SUCH AN EXTENDED TOUR MIGHT BE ON HIS FAMILY

5. THE EMBASSY STAFF HAS FOUND JENNEKENS TO BE KNOWLEDGABLE IN THE NUCLEAR ENERGY FIELD AND TO BE VERY FAMILIAR WITH SAFEGUARDS AND CONTROLS AS THEY RELATE TO BILATERAL AS WELL AS MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS. SINCE 1968 HE HAS BEEN THE CHIEF CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE ON IAEA AND HAS BEEN CHAIRMAN OF SAGSI SINCE 1975.

6. JENNEKENS IS VERY PERSONABLE AND IS QUITE FRIENDLY TOWARD THE U.S. HE AND HIS ORGANIZATION WORK CLOSELY WITH ITS U.S. NUCLEAA REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) COUNTERPARTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATIONS, LICENSING, SAFEGUARDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CONTROL OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MATERIALS. THERE ARE FREQUENT EXCHANGES OF VISITS BETWEEN AECB AND NRC AND A BROAD SHARING OF INFORMATION INCLUDING FORWARD PLANNING.

7. HIS APPROACH IS LOW-KEY BUT HE HAS THE FACILITY OF GETTING THINGS DONE AND WORKS WELL WITH OTHERS. UNDER HIS DIRECTION THERE HAS BEEN A COMPLETE REVISION OF CANADIAN NUCLEAR REGULATIONS AND OF PHYSICAL SECURITY STANDARDS. HIS GROUP ALSO PROVIDES STRONG SUPPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY MATTERS.

8. IN OPINION OF THE EMBASSY, JON JENNEKENS WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR POSITION OF DDG FOR SAFEGUARDS IN THE IAEA. HOWEVER, IF HE WERE TO TAKE THE POSITION IT WOULD LEAVE A LARGE HOLE IN THE CANADIAN AECB ORGANIZATION.

9. CURRICULUM VITAE ON JON H. JENNEKENS BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT. DUEMLING

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NOMINATION, PERSONNEL  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014